

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7742

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UNCLAS BRASILIA 3000

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CINCSO FOR POLAD

ATTN: IOR/ M, IPS, IBS, RIM, ILA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA FOR SECRETARY' S PARTY

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR OVIP EFIN UNRG ESTC BR PE CO XM XF

SUBJECT: ROGERS' VISIT MEDIA REACTION REPORT

1. MODERATELY HEAVY MEDIA COVERAGE CONTINUES ON SECRETARY ROGERS' VISIT TO LATAM. NEWSPAPERS FEATURE MOSTLY STRAIGHTFORWARD NEWS REPORTS ON HIS VISIT TO BOGOTA, WITH MODERATE PLAY IN STUDENTS' PROTEST DEMONSTRATION UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN THAT CAPITAL. SAMPLE HEADLINES: INDEPENDENT JORNAL DO BRASIL (RIO): " ROGERS (ARRIVAL) AROUSES PROTEST (DEMONSTRATIONS) IN COLOMBIA"; LIBERAL JORNAL DE BRASILIA: " TODAY (IN BOGOTA) ROGERS WILL ANNOUCE A NEW (U. S.)
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LATAM POLICY"; STORY SAYS THAT ROGERS, " VISIBLY RESTED AND CONVINCED THAT HIS TRIP IS BEING SUCCESSFUL, ... CHOSE BOGOTA TO DELIVER TODAY THE MOST IMPORTANT POLITICAL SPEECH TO BE MADE DURING HIS CURRENT TOUR. ... IN SPEECH HE WILL EXPLAIN TO LATAM THE MEANING OF THE RENEWED INTEREST WHICH WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE DEMONSTRATING FOR THE AREA. ..." (MAY 18). CONSERVATIVE JORNAL DA TARDE (SAO PAULO: " WHAT WAS THE VALUE OF WILLIAM ROGERS VISIT TO PERU?"; STORY LEAD SAYS THAT " THE DIFFICULTIES ROGERS WOULD FACE IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH PERUVIAN LEADERS DURING HIS VISIT TO LIMA WERE ANTICIPATED AHEAD OF TIME. ALTHOUGH RESULTS OF THESE CONVERSATIONS WERE NOT MADE PUBLIC, THE GENERAL IMPRESSION WAS THAT THEY DID NOT LEAD TO ANY PRACTICAL RESULTS: THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN U. S. AND PERU CONTINUE TO BE AS DIFFICULT AS THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO. ..." (MAY 17).

2. INFLUENTIAL O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO ARTICLE ENTITLED " PETROLEUM IN ROGERS' AGENDA" SAYS: " SECRETARY ROGERS' VISIT TO BRAZIL MAY MARK THE BEGINNING OF CONVERSATIONS AIMING AT U. S. PARTICIPATION IN THE EFFORTS TO EXPLORE BRAZILIAN CONTINENTAL PLATFORM. AS ADMITTED IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES, THE U. S. INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN BRAZILIAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION WILL BE BROUGHT OUT DURING THE SECRETARY' S VISIT; SUCH PARTICIPATION WOULD NOT BE THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS CONCESSIONS, BUT THROUGH RENDERING SERVICES SIMILAR TO THOSE CURRENTLY BEING RENDERED BY PETROBRAS TO IRAQ. ACCORDING TO OBSERVERS, INCLUSION OF THIS ITEM AMONG THE TOPICS ROGERS WILL DISCUSS WITH BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES IS DUE TO THE U. S. SHORTAGE OF

RESERVES OF THIS PRODUCT, AND ALSO BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS BEING FACED BY THAT COUNTRY WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED FRONT BY THE ARAB PETROLEUM PRODUCING NATIONS. ... THE AMERICAN INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN BRAZIL' S EFFORTS TO EXPLORE ITS CONTINENTAL PLATFORM HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED DURING PAST MONTHS BY LEADING AMERICAN PETROLEUM COMPANIES' REPRESENTATIVES -- SUCH AS STANDARD OIL, TEXAS CO., AND SHELL -- WHO HAVE OFFERED PETROBRAS THEIR SERVICES AND RESOURCES. ... ACCORDING TO (BRAZILIAN) DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, WHICH CALL THESE PROPOSALS ' FEELERS' ON THE PART OF THE AMERICANS, THE U. S. COMPANIES HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED ANY OFFICIAL ANSWER. THE TRUTH IS THAT THE MATTER OF FOREIGN PARTICIPATION IN BRAZILIAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION IS TABOO FOR PETROBRAS AND ALWAYS PROVOKES EMOTIONAL REACTIONS. ... THE MATTER, HOWEVER, IS BEING EXAMINED ON A TECHNICAL LEVEL AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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RADICAL CHANGES WHICH CURRENTLY ARE TAKING PLACE IN THE PRODUCT' S INTERNATIONAL MARKET. ..." (MAY 18).

3. JORNAL DO BRASIL EDITORIAL ENTITLED " PRAGMATISM IN LIMA" SAYS: " THE PRAGMATISM OF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY MADE ITS APPEARANCE IN OUR HEMISPHERE WHEN SECRETARY ROGERS MADE A STATEMENT SAYING THAT '

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UNITED STATES RESPECTS THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT'S NATIONALISTIC, SOVEREIGN, AND INDEPENDENT POLICY.' ... WILLIAM ROGERS' STATEMENT PUTS THE U. S. ON THE VERGE OF (FULL) ACCEPTANCE OF IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM. ... IT WAS BECOMING MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT NOT TO GIVE LATAM THE SAME PRAGMATIC TREATMENT WHICH IS INSPIRING U. S. RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW AND PEKING. IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN (THE REASONS FOR) SUCH OBVIOUS IDEOLOGICAL COMPREHENSION WITH THE NORTH AND INDEOLOGICAL INTOLERANCE FOR THE SOUTH. IF EVEN THE COMMUNISTS GAIN DIPLOMATIC RESPECT, WHY NOT RECOGNIZE THE PERUVIAN STYLE OF NATIONALISM? ... THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE TIMES ARE CHANGING. ROGERS' VISIT TO LIMA HAS EXPANDED THE PRESTIGE OF PERUVIAN- STYLE NATIONALISM, A POLICY WHICH IS AT THE SAME TIME NATIONALISTIC, ANTICOMMUNISTIC, AND ANTICAPITALISTIC. THIS HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED IN BRAZIL." (MAY 18).

4. TOPICS WHICH LOCAL PRESS SPECULATE MAY BE INCLUDED IN ROGERS' AGENDA IN BRAZIL: U. S. SALE OF ITS STRATEGIC RESERVES AND FINANCIAL LOANS IN ADDITION TO OTHERS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED -- SOLUBLE COFFEE, COFFEE TRADE, AND PETROLEUM. (MAY 18).

5. NEWS REPORTS AND COLUMNIST ITEMS NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT CONCLUSION OF SECSTATE VISIT IN BRAZIL, INTIMATING POSSIBILITY OF MINOR PIQUE AT FONOFF BECAUSE OF THIS. (MAY 18).

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